

sections of the Act. Government has introduced a Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill in the current session of Parliament with a view to remove, amongst others, these lacuna.

Further, the TV channels uplinking their programmes from India are bound through appropriate licensing conditions, to abide by the programme and advertisement codes as applicable to Doordarshan. However, the Government is not in a position to impose such conditions or obligations on the TV channels uplinking their programmes from outside the country, as they are not bound to seek permission or approval for downlinking. This situation has got further accentuated as these channels were earlier not permitted to uplink their programmes from India. In order to remove this anomaly, the Government has liberalized its uplinking policy recently enabling these channels to uplink their programmes from India, so as to bring them within the ambit of our rules and regulations particularly, the ones relating to the compliance with our programme and advertisement codes.

Government is also contemplating to bring a comprehensive legislation with a view, amongst others, to provide for regulation of broadcasting services including foreign satellite TV channels.

Report on Restructuring of Prasar Bharati

2999. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether even as the Shunu Sen Committee's report on restructuring Prasar Bharati is said to be under active consideration, an early decision appears to be unlikely because of the contentious nature of some of its recommendations; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to sort out the issues by Government, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) View on some of the recommendations of Shunu Sen Committee is to be taken by Prasar Bharati, whereas in respect of some others, Government has to take a view. The Government has already started the process of consulting the Members of Prasar Bharati Board and representative of staff and employees union for taking a final view. The report has also been circulated among the Members of the Consultative Committee for seeking their views.